

but my dear and dearest and dearest,  
I am going to the Regt. just as  
soon as I can, there is no body knows  
when they are going but the crew that  
went there, I hope my love to all  
of yours & yours

New Orleans La. July 5<sup>th</sup> 1844

Dear Mother

I received your very  
kind letter and package day before  
yesterday, and was very glad to get  
them. I have got quite a picture  
gallery now to look at. But had  
much rather see the original ones.  
Alice's picture is a first rate one  
it don't seem as if she has grown  
any hardly. Susans picture looks  
as if she had grown old very fast  
it looks to be about ten years older  
than she did when I saw her last.  
I received Ellens photograph last

week, I would not have known it  
if I had seen it any where else.  
She has got to be quite an old woman  
all of them look about ten years  
older than they did when I last saw  
them. except Alice she has not altered  
any, scarcely as I can see in her looks.

The Regt was here in <sup>the</sup> City two days  
at the Alabama Cotton Press, about three  
miles from here. and I could not get a  
pass to go and see Harrison. I tried  
yesterday to get a pass, I told the Dr.  
what I wanted to go for but it was  
no use, I was bound to go so I ~~for~~  
jumped over the fence passed the  
guards, and went up there but they  
had gone. our company and three  
others went in the morning on  
board of the steamer Crescent, and  
the other six companies were there  
at the wharf on a boat ready  
to start I saw some of our boys that



got left they said that he was well  
he was in the same fix that I was  
he could not get out, he was in a  
place that he could not jump out.  
for it is enclosed with high walls,  
if he had been no doubt he would  
have done the same that I did.

If I had thought that <sup>they</sup> was going away  
so soon I would went the first day  
the Dr refused me a pass but I thought  
that they was going to stay there a  
few days, and I supposed that he would  
give me a pass the next day.

The excuse he made the first time  
was "that it was after the hour of the  
day for giving passes;" and the next  
day <sup>he</sup> said that I had a pass but a  
few days before and that would do  
me. I tell you I came back here ~~to~~  
in no very good humor. I was  
mad enough to cry if it would  
have done any good. If this ever  
comes to an end there is some of

these "Shoulder Strap" men that will  
suffer, If you want me to write  
about how the sick are cared for  
here, will they have a great deal better  
care than you ~~have~~ you imagine  
we have good beds to sleep in as  
good as I ever want, we get clean  
clothes every Sunday morning, I can  
get them as often as I want to change,  
as far as our ~~victuals~~ victuals is concerned  
it is good enough for me, but  
some will find fault, we get veg-  
-etables almost every day for dinner  
and butter for breakfast & supper  
good bread & salt meat or ~~pickled~~ pickling  
and tea. Then that are very sick  
get of course a great deal better  
the Sanitary Commission furnishes  
them with a good deal of preserves  
and wine, but they don't get half enough  
of it here, there is a great many dies  
here with the diarrhoea, two have died  
this morning in this ward, it is very warm  
here now. I wear nothing through the day